

'Angel' in Disguise Makes FAFSA Almost Pain-Free

By B Ray

Ever try to fill out the dreaded FAFSA (Free Application For Federal Student Aid)? If you haven't, you might enjoy pulling out your toenails with tweezers more. If you have, your toenails have grown back nicely; almost time to do it again.

There is one option that makes it pain-free in every aspect of the word.

As a free service to the community, the Penn State Delaware County Campus will be holding workshops to help those limping toward another school year fill out their request for grants, loans, and scholarships.

During the workshops, the student and/or their parents are taken through step by tedious step, line by monotonous line of the FAFSA. Even greater is that our own financial aid gurus, Mrs. Sylvia Schaffer and Mrs. Anna Pepino, will be there along with financial aid officers from other campuses to help along the individual as well as the group.

Unless you are paying in cash, you must fill the FAFSA out, so why not do it with professionals leading you through it? All that is required is your presence along with your financial records and a little patience. Shake well, stir, and voila, instant financial aid.

What's even greater about the

program is that the workshops take place before all the deadlines for any possible aid to be dispersed. By attending you will find yourself eligible for state and university funds that you may have never heard of. The money is there for someone, why not you?

The dates for the workshops at the Delaware County Campus are Saturday, 1/24 from 1-3 PM; Tuesday, 1/27 from 7-9PM; and Saturday, 1/31 from 1-3 PM. All meetings will take place in the large conference room in the Commons building.

There will also be workshops held at the Penn State Abington Campus on Tuesday 1/20, and Friday 1/30 from 7-9 PM; and the Philadelphia Community Recruitment Center (4601 Market Street) on 1/31 from 10AM- noon. For Hispanic students, a bilingual program will be held at ASPIRA Inc. of Philadelphia (2726 N. 5th St.) also on 1/31 from 10AM- noon.

The only request of those running this magnificent program is that you call ahead of time and reserve a spot because space has become limited as this program grows in popularity.

Any questions or reservations can be directed to the Admissions Office at Delco by calling 892-1204.

Your wallet and your feet will love you for it.

Need a Roof Over Your Head Next Year at State College?

By Len Damico

Although more and more students are staying at Delco for the duration of their education, 50% of Delco's sophomores transfer to the University Park campus to finish their college careers. As such, many people will be needing a place to stay next year. The time to start thinking about housing decisions for University Park is now.

If you're a student headed northwest for the Spring semester, now is the time to send your housing contract in, along with your \$100 deposit. Dorms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, so the earlier you file, the better the chances of you getting your dream dorm.

If you're waiting until the Fall semester to head to the Park, the first day to submit your contract is January 20. Once again, dorms are first-come, first-served, so don't wait until the last minute.

Please note that they're called contracts for a reason: once you file

one, you've got to stick with it. To find out more, or to obtain a housing contract, stop by Raquel Arredondo's office, room 138 in the Commons/Athletic Center, or call the housing office at University Park at (814) 865-7501.

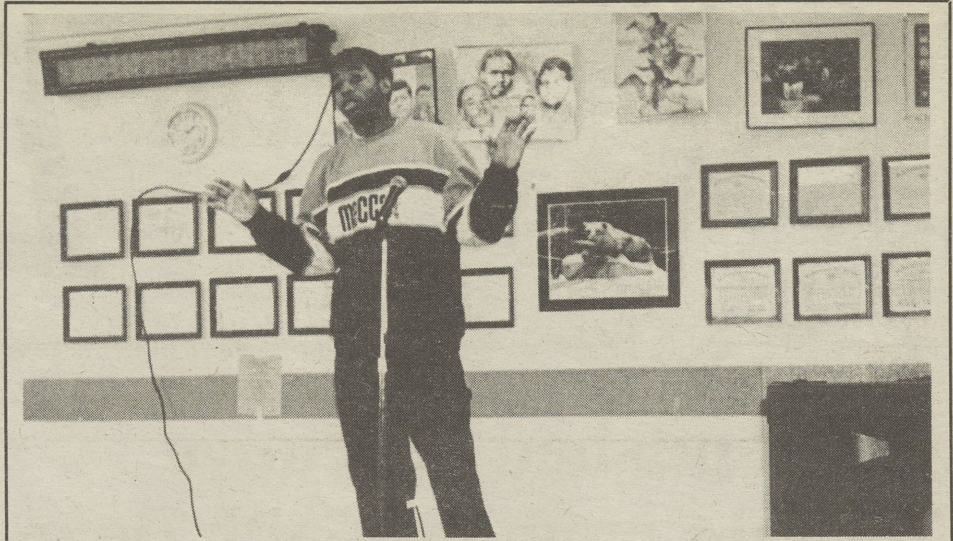
If you want to go to University Park, but don't want the rigidity of dorm life, living off-campus may be for you. Many options are available. For more information, contact (814) 865-6851. Delco will be sponsoring a bus to the Park for the Housing Fair in January. Seats are still available, and can be reserved in Student Life, 2nd floor, Commons.

Meal plans are another option to be mulling over during semester break. A variety of plans are being offered, and one's sure to fit your eating habits and budget. Plans run from \$1000 to \$1245 in cost

Now is the time to start planning the non-academic part of your career at Penn State's University Park Campus.



Penn Staters who attended the GLACC Conference on Friday, November 21 at Penn State Delaware County, flank keynote speaker Robert Drake (center) of WXPN-FM; (L-R) Atlantis Black (Penn State Delaware County), Jose Rodriguez (Penn State Abington), Raquel Arredondo (Penn State Delaware County); Robert Drake (WXPN-FM — Keynote Speaker), Brandon Hamm (Penn State Delaware County), Steve McCann (Penn State University Park) and Kelly Monaghan (Penn State University Park).



Christian Dale, a member of the Black Student League, speaks out at the "Thanksgiving is..." Festival.

Procrastination:

A Sure Recipe for Ulcers

By Erin Lulevitch

As the semester comes to an end, the pressures are just beginning.

Final term papers, final exams, special projects and oral presentations are taking their toll on campus students. Especially for those students who procrastinate, this time of year becomes a recipe for ulcers.

Walt Ent, a former Delco student (5th semester, labor and industrial relations), says that most classes at University Park determine final grades on only two exams and a final, which means students are out of luck if they don't test well or are having a bad day on the day of exams. "People here are really tense and frustrated," he notes.

The work overload has some students sleep walking their way through the days. There just doesn't seem to be enough time in the day to get work done. Students and faculty alike are noticing that patience seems to be at an all time low, as more quibbles become apparent in the halls and in the classrooms. A lot of this tension can be attributed to the increase in workload.

"I think everyone is complaining about how much work they have to do," says Laurie Hrinkevich (4th semester, education).

Last minute assignments don't make things much easier.

"My one teacher just assigned two major projects," comments Hrinkevich. "Now I've got that to worry about, along with ten million other things."

If neglected work is piling up, tackle each project in small doses. Trying to get everything done at once will only result in burn-out and less than quality work. Aim to do the biggest projects or projects that are due soonest, first.

After an hour of real, honest attempts at work, take a fifteen minute break. It's enough time to grab something to eat, relax, and regroup, but not enough time to lose focus.

When it comes to studying for exams, don't try to learn a whole semester in one night. Review key words and concepts and use mnemonic devices to make recalling things easier. Take comfort in knowing that you did the best job possible at this point in time and don't forget to reward yourself for a job well done.

And last, but not least, realize that the stress factor is high for everyone at this time of year, professors too. So make a conscious effort to be a little kinder. After all, salvation from the fall semester is only two weeks away.

Campus Organizations Keeping Everyone Busy

By JoAnne Johnson

The Fall semester of the 1997-98 school year has been bustling with major activities both on and off campus, thanks to devotion of the campus clubs and organizations.

The Service Corps attended a regional service-learning workshop at Swarthmore College November 6 and 7, where they were very vocal on what students can do in the community.

Anthony Mariani, Service Corps President, also represented the campus at a Alcohol-awareness conference, where the Penn State campuses from the eastern part of the state gathered in order to try to discuss the profound harm that alcohol inflicts on college students. "I think that all of the representatives were impressed that Delco had a student turnout at the conference," commented Mariani, 1st semester, liberal arts. "I also learned a lot of information about how we might be able to start our own Students Against Drunk Driving chapter on this campus."

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and

Friends Alliance hosted a regional conference here at Delco on Friday, November 21. Forty-five students from chosen colleges attended the upbeat gathering planned and facilitated by Brandon Hamm, President of the LGBFA. "The purpose was to create a link between student groups and provide an environment where we can share our resources," said Hamm.

Finally, in addition to the Community Campus Student Government conferences that they attend once a month at University Park, the Student Government Association attended a National Student Leadership Conference on November 22-25 in Florida. The purpose of this conference was to build leadership qualities in present student leaders for the betterment of their schools. "There were so many workshops offered, and so much information to absorb," said Freshmen Representative Elizabeth Mondri, "I definitely think the SGA brought home valuable information that will help us conduct business better."